

March 2015



St. Mary's Spring News



Ambassador Eco-School



We are celebrating receiving the prestigious award of 'Ambassador Eco-School' status. Miss McWilliams, Mr Scullion and the Eco-Council received the award at the Eco-Schools 20th Anniversary event held recently at Meadowbank. We are the only school in Derry and one of only ten schools in Northern Ireland to have received this status. St. Mary's Primary was awarded in recognition of the exceptional levels of pupil leadership and whole school involvement which is embedded in our school ethos. We strive to continue our good work daily, as we work towards our third green flag award.



WINNERS OF THE KINDNESS CUP

Congratulations to our winners of the Kindness Cup for January and February. These pupils were very deserving of their award for showing kindness to others.



Environmental Youth Speak



Congratulations to 'Re-Usable Queen' and 'Eco Girl' who took part in the Environmental Youth Speak awards hosted by John Murtagh at Magherafelt District council offices.

First Penance 2015

Congratulations to our 36 Year Four pupils from Miss McGurk's and Mrs Higgins' classes who received the Sacrament of First Penance in Holy Rosary Church on Thursday 12th March. It was a very special evening for our P4 pupils and their families. They are now looking forward to their First Holy Communion on May 16th.



World Book Day

Internationally known author and storyteller Liz Weir came to visit our school for World Book Day.

Liz treated to us stories from her books 'Here There and Everywhere' and 'Boom Chicka Boom.' She talked to us about being an author and we found out many interesting things. It was great! We all really enjoyed the visit. We also ran a competition for World Book Day with a winner from each class.

Foundation Stage created pictures of their favourite fairy-tale character, Key Stage 1 designed a bookmark and Key Stage 2 made a poster to promote the event. Liz Weir presented each of the winners with a certificate and a book of their choice from the school book fair.



WORLD
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DAY**

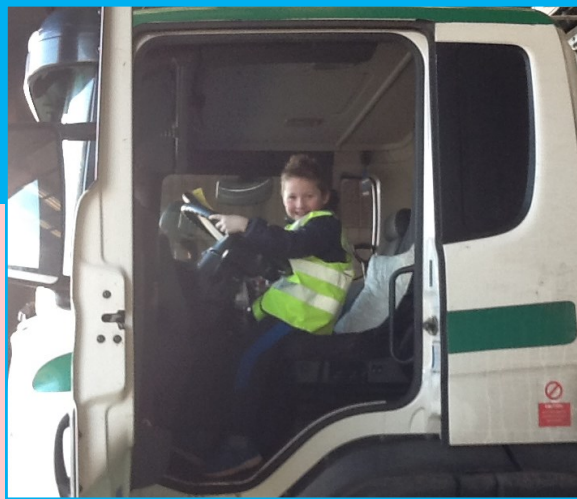
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P4/5 Trip to Magherafelt Recycling Centre

As part of our learning in World Around Us, P4/5 visited the Recycling Centre in Magherafelt on February 4th to find out about recycling waste first hand. We were taken on a tour of the centre by Mr Murtagh who is the Environmental Officer for M.D.C.

We learned alot about what happens to our household waste and how the different coloured bins are sorted when they go in the bin lorry. We saw the huge can crusher which sorts and crushes all the aluminium cans and we got a chance to be 'pretend' bin lorry drivers! We really enjoyed our trip and learned so much. Mr Murtagh gave us all a water bottle which was made from recycled materials.

Thank you Magherafelt District Council for our visit!



Sporting Excellence From Caterpillar To Butterfly in P1

Congratulations to our boys and girls who recently took part in the All-County Finals in Ladies Football, Camogie and Hurling. Thank you to Mr Brunton, Mr Scullion, Cathal Murray and Mary McGuigan for all their hard work.



The Primary 1 class are patiently awaiting the growth of their caterpillars into beautiful butterflies.





The Passion Play

Every two years we work extremely hard to produce 'The Passion Play'. It is an important opportunity for us to showcase the immense talent we have at St. Mary's. Congratulations to everyone who has participated in this fantastic production.

IMPORTANT EVENTS & DATES

- 15th April - Confirmation
- 4th May - School Closed (May Day)
- 7th May - School Closed (Election)
- 16th May - First Holy Communion
- 25th May - School Closed
- 4th June - School Festival
- 11th June - Fan The Flame Mass (Derry)

Annual Draw

We have had another fantastic response from the entire school community in support of our annual draw. A huge thank-you to all parents and pupils for their continued support and well done to the lucky draw winners. We raised £5350.



For more info visit our school website; www.stmaryspsdraperstown.com